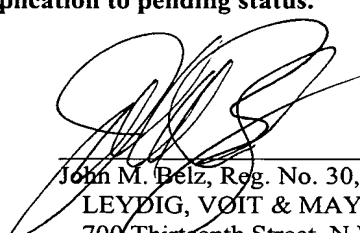


U.S. Patent and Trademark Office 220 20 <sup>th</sup> Street S. Customer Window, Mail Stop PCT Crystal Plaza Two, Lobby, Room 1B03 Arlington, VA 22202		ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 440911 CLIENT REF. NO. 440911 <div style="font-size: 24pt; font-weight: bold; text-align: center;">10/500320</div> U.S. APPLICATION NO.
<b>TRANSMITTAL LETTER TO THE UNITED STATES          DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE (DO/EO/US)          CONCERNING A FILING UNDER 35 USC 371 AND 37 CFR 1.491</b>		
INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO. PCT/EP02/14780	INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE 27 December 2002	PRIORITY DATE CLAIMED 29 December 2001
TITLE OF INVENTION FILTER ELEMENT		
APPLICANT(S) FOR DO/EO/US		
Applicant herewith submits to the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) the following items and other information:		
1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This is a <b>FIRST</b> submission of items concerning a filing under 35 USC 371 and 37 CFR 1.491. 2. <input type="checkbox"/> This is a <b>SECOND</b> or <b>SUBSEQUENT</b> submission of items concerning a filing under 35 USC 371 and 37 CFR 1.491. 3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This is an express request to begin national examination procedures (35 USC 371(f)). 4. <input type="checkbox"/> The US has been elected by the expiration of 19 months from the priority date (PCT Article 31). 5. <input type="checkbox"/> A copy of the International Application as filed (35 USC 371(c)(2)) a. <input type="checkbox"/> is attached hereto (required only if not communicated by the International Bureau). b. <input type="checkbox"/> has been communicated by the International Bureau. c. <input type="checkbox"/> is not required, as the application was filed in the United States Receiving Office (RO/US). 6. <input type="checkbox"/> An English language translation of the International Application as filed (35 USC 371(c)(2)). 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Amendments to the claims of the International Application under PCT Article 19 (35 USC 371(c)(3)) a. <input type="checkbox"/> are attached hereto (required only if not communicated by the International Bureau). b. <input type="checkbox"/> have been communicated by the International Bureau. c. <input type="checkbox"/> have not been made; however, the time limit for making such amendments has NOT expired. d. <input type="checkbox"/> have not been made and will not be made. 8. <input type="checkbox"/> An English language translation of the amendments to the claims under PCT Article 19 (35 USC 371(c)(3)). 9. <input type="checkbox"/> An oath or declaration of the inventor(s) (35 USC 371(c)(4)). 10. <input type="checkbox"/> An English language translation of the annexes to the International Preliminary Examination Report under PCT Article 36 (35 USC 371(c)(5)). 11. Nucleotide and/or Amino Acid Sequence Submission a. <input type="checkbox"/> Computer Readable Form (CRF) b. Specification Sequence Listing on: i. <input type="checkbox"/> CD-ROM or CD-R (2 copies); or ii. <input type="checkbox"/> Paper Copy c. <input type="checkbox"/> Statement verifying identity of above copies		
<b>Items 12 to 19 below concern other document(s) or information included:</b>		
12. <input type="checkbox"/> An Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. <input type="checkbox"/> Form PTO-1449 <input type="checkbox"/> Copies of References (except for U.S. patents and applications) 13. <input type="checkbox"/> An assignment for recording. A separate cover sheet in compliance with 37 CFR 3.28 and 3.31 is included. 14. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A FIRST preliminary amendment. <input type="checkbox"/> A SECOND or SUBSEQUENT preliminary amendment. 15. <input type="checkbox"/> A substitute specification. 16. <input type="checkbox"/> A change of power of attorney and/or address letter. 17. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Application Data Sheet Under 37 CFR 1.76 18. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Return Receipt Postcard 19. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other items or information: International Publication No. WO 03/055577A1, including the International Search Report; a set of drawings		

U.S. APPLICATION NO. <b>10/500320</b>		INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO. PCT/EP02/14780		ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 440911		CLIENT REF. NO. 440911																									
20. The following fees are submitted: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Basic National Fee (37 CFR 1.492(a)(1)-(5)):</b> Neither international preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) nor international search fee (37 CFR 1.445(a)(2)) paid to USPTO and International Search Report not prepared by the EPO or JPO ..... \$1,080.00 International preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) not paid to USPTO but International Search Report prepared by the EPO or JPO ..... \$920.00 International preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) not paid to USPTO, but international search fee (37 CFR 1.445(a)(2)) paid to USPTO ..... \$770.00 International preliminary examination fee paid to USPTO (37 CFR 1.482) but all claims did not satisfy provisions of PCT Article 33(1)-(4) ..... \$730.00 International preliminary examination fee paid to USPTO (37 CFR 1.482) and all claims satisfied provisions of PCT Article 33(1) to (4) ..... \$100.00 <div style="text-align: right;"><b>ENTER APPROPRIATE BASIC FEE AMOUNT=</b></div>						CALCULATIONS	PTO USE ONLY																								
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<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Claim Fee</b> <table border="1" style="width:100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width:20%;">CLAIMS</th> <th style="width:20%;">NUMBER FILED</th> <th style="width:20%;">NUMBER EXTRA</th> <th style="width:20%;">RATE</th> <th style="width:10%;"></th> <th style="width:10%;"></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Total Claims</td> <td style="text-align: center;">-20=</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">x \$ 18.00</td> <td>\$</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Independent Claims</td> <td style="text-align: center;">- 3 =</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">x \$ 86.00</td> <td>\$</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3"><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Multiple Dependent Claim(s) (if applicable)</b></td> <td style="text-align: right;">+\$290.00</td> <td>\$</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>								CLAIMS	NUMBER FILED	NUMBER EXTRA	RATE			Total Claims	-20=		x \$ 18.00	\$		Independent Claims	- 3 =		x \$ 86.00	\$		<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Multiple Dependent Claim(s) (if applicable)</b>			+\$290.00	\$	
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<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Surcharge of \$130.00 for furnishing the National fee or oath or declaration later than</b> <input type="checkbox"/> 20 <input type="checkbox"/> 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date						\$																									
<b>TOTAL OF ABOVE CALCULATIONS=</b>						\$920.00																									
<input type="checkbox"/> Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27. The fees indicated above are reduced by 1/2.						\$( )																									
<b>SUBTOTAL=</b>						\$920.00																									
<input type="checkbox"/> Processing fee of <b>\$130.00</b> for furnishing English Translation later than <input type="checkbox"/> 20 <input type="checkbox"/> 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date.						\$																									
<b>TOTAL NATIONAL FEE=</b>						\$920.00																									
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee for recording the enclosed assignment. The assignment must be accompanied by an appropriate cover sheet. <b>\$40.00</b> per property						+																									
<b>TOTAL FEE=</b>						\$920.00																									
						Amount to be:																									
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						charged:	\$																								
a. <input type="checkbox"/> No fee is believed to be due. b. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Please charge Deposit Account No. 12-1216 the total fee indicated above. c. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 12-1216. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.																															
<b>NOTE: Where an appropriate time limit under 37 CFR 1.494 or 1.495 has not been met, a petition to revive (37 CFR 1.137(a) or (b)) must be filed and granted to restore the application to pending status.</b>																															
SEND ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO CUSTOMER NO. 23548:																															
23548				 John M. Belz, Reg. No. 30,359 LEYDIG, VOIT & MAYER 700 Thirteenth Street, N.W., Suite 300 Washington, DC 20005-3960 (202) 737-6770 (telephone) (202) 737-6776 (facsimile)																											
				Date: <i>28 June 2004</i>																											